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THE GENESEE FARMER.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1836.

Apples for Fattening Hogs.

Although the attention of our readers has been before called to this subject, we believe its importance is too little appreciated generally; and as the *present* is the season for action, we shall lay a few facts before them, showing the advantages of employing apples as food for fattening hogs, over other substances. We shall first endeavor to show that they are a *valuable* kind of food, and secondly that they are a *cheap* one.

FIRST, with regard to their *value*. A correspondent of the Maine Farmer in 1834 made the following experiment. He commenced feeding his hogs on apples in August. A pig four months old and weighing 95 pounds, was fed 18 days as follows:—first, two bushels of *sour* apples, boiled with six quarts of oats and pea meal, weighing four and a half pounds, were given him. At the end of six days he had gained *six* pounds. He was then kept six days on the same quantity of boiled *sweet* apples and meal, at the end of which time he had gained *six* pounds more. He was next fed on an equal quantity of boiled *potatoes* and meal, and at the end of six days he had gained only *five* pounds. Here the superiority of both sweet and sour apples over potatoes was decisively shown.

A correspondent of this paper at Lockport, in a communication last winter, states, that he shut up seven hogs about fourteen months old on the first of October; they were in poor condition, and estimated to weigh about 150 lbs. each, and worth in the market 2½ cents per pound. They were fed fifty days on apples, mostly sour, boiled with a small quantity of water, with the addition of a bushel of bran and a pint of salt, to three bushels of apples. At the end of fifty days they were fed with twelve and a half bushels of soft corn in the ear, and afterwards slaughtered. The average weight of each was 272 pounds. Estimating the apples at twenty-five cents a bushel, the bran at six cents, and the corn at sixty-two and a half, the whole expense was $77,55, and the pork at $6,25 per cwt. $116, leaving a clear profit of $41,45. See the whole exeriment detailed, in Gen. Farmer, current volume, page 61.

These experiments, it will be observed, were with *cooked* apples. The practice has also succeeded when they have been fed in a raw state; though the latter is not as profitable, except on a very small scale, when the trouble and expense of cooking would be comparatively greater. In the following experiments, the apples were given uncooked. A correspondent in Onondaga county turned thirty hogs and from thirty to forty shoats and pigs in an orchard of 400 trees about the 15th of September, and they remained there until the latter part of November, when they were slaughtered, with the exception of 12 dollars' worth sold alive, and about a dozen retained as store pigs. They yieled about 5,450 lbs. of first rate pork, fattened on apples wholly, without any grain. This was the fourth experiment of the kind made by the writer, all of which were attended with complete success.*

In the fourth volume, page 324, of the Genesee Farmer, S. P. Rhoades of Skaneateles says, "A friend from Massachusetts informs me that he shut up a hog by himself, and fed him entirely on *apples and water*, last fall, and that he became very fat, was well filled, and the pork was hard and sweet as that fed on corn." He also states, that when turned into an orchard where there are both sweet and sour apples, hogs will eat about as much of one as of the other.

In the Brattleborough Messenger, a correspondent says, "A man in Guilford, conversing on this subject, said to me, 'There is a hog that will weigh over two hundred; I brought it home in July on my back. I have given it nothing but apples, and a little slop for drink.'"

SECONDLY, with regard to the *cheapness* of this kind of food. This may perhaps be best determined by calculation. We will suppose that an orchard is planted on an acre of ground, and that the trees stand at a distance of twenty-five feet asunder, which would not be too near when they are merely intended for this purpose. This would give about seventy trees to the acre. The trees, at twenty-five cents each, would cost $18,75; and the expense of planting, supposing each tree to cost ten cents each, would be 7 dollars. While the trees are small, the land may be tilled and will produce as much as before; and from the time they begin to bear, they may be considered as paying for the ground they occupy, by their fruit. Such an orchard, therefore, in a good bearing state, would cost as follows:

One acre of land,	$50 00
Seventy trees,	18 75
Planting,	7 00
	$75 75

The annual interest on this sum, at seven per cent. would be $5,30, which would be the actual expense of each crop, as the pasture of the ground would pay for gathering. If each tree bears on an average five bushels a year, (this is a low estimate if the most productive varieties are selected,) the annual crop would be three hundred and fifty bushels, which according to the preceding calculation would be at the rate of *one cent and a half* a bushel. Estimating the cost at double this, the clear profit in the second experiment before stated, instead of being $41,45, would actually be $74,45.

* Gen. Far. vol. 6, page 13.

One of our neighbors, last year, made forty dollars from a small orchard of about an acre, by fattening hogs, and reserved a large supply of apples for winter and other use.

If instead of feeding potatoes to their hogs, farmers would sell their potatoes, and purchase apples for this purpose, they would find it to their advantage. In ordinary seasons, apples suitable for feeding may be had at one quarter the price of potatoes, or even less, and their superior value has been already shown. It would be far preferable, however, if they would raise their own apples, of kinds expressly for this purpose.

Green Crops as Manure.

An illiterate farmer asked, "Why does not my ten acre field sink down, as I and my ancestors have taken more than a hundred crops from it, without ever adding a particle of manure?"

He was not aware that the substance of his crops, instead of being derived from the earth, was principally obtained from the *air*, and from the moisture in the soil, so that the quantity of soil itself was little affected.

To prove that plants may be produced from no other substances than air and water, let the following experiment be performed. Procure a quantity of pounded glass, wash it clean, put it in a clean glass vessel, and plant in it grass seed or grain; let it be elevated from the ground and kept remote from any thing that can drop into it or come in contact with it. Moisten it frequently with perfectly pure water, so that not a particle of any thing else can come near it. The seeds will vegetate and grow to a height of several inches; and the glass will not be diminished in the least. If the experiment, instead of being made with pounded glass, were made with silex, alumine, and carbonate of lime, in those proportions in which they exist when they form the most fertile soils, the result would be the same. It is true, that in all good soils there exists vegetable and animal matter, the quantity of which is affected by the growth of plants; but these substances form but a small proportion of the whole, and vegetable matter in soils is as likely to be increased as diminished by the growth of plants.

It will thus be perceived, that the practice of enriching land by green crops, is in fact nothing else than obtaining manure from the *air and rain;*—that plants form a channel through which fertilizing substances are conveyed to the soil, which are taken in by the leaves and pass through the stems to the roots.

The roots of grass in good sward ground make a formidable subterranean forest in miniature, and it is asserted on respectable authority, that more than twelve tons are thus added to the fertilizing properties of every acre of soil. When therefore the leaves and stems as well as the roots, are also thus applied, the whole quantity becomes very large.

Crops turned under for manure, should always be in a green state, and never ripe and dry. In the former case they ferment and become fit

for supporting vegetation; in the latter, they continue unrotted often for years.

Loudon, speaking on this subject, makes the following interesting statement: "Among the most active parts employed as manure, I have found the wild species of the genus Sinapis, (mustard,) ploughed in fresh in the bottom of turnep drills, at the rate of twenty tons per acre. The produce brought at auction £12, while the rest of the field, manured with twenty tons of farm-yard dung, brought only from £9 to £10 per acre. Other weeds, such as nettles, thistles, &c. produce crops superior to farm-yard dung.* Potatoe stems, fresh ploughed in on clover lay for wheat, I have found to produce crops exceeding by two bolls per acre in quantity, with more proportionate weight of straw, than other parts of the same field manured with farm-yard dung, but otherwise under the same circumstances. The stems from three acres of good potatoes, will manure an acre of wheat, to much better purpose than fifteen tons of farm-yard dung, the usual quantity allowed in that part of the rotation, clover and wheat being the crop which generally precedes fallow."

We think that in no case farm-yard manure should be rejected or wasted, because all the manure which can possibly be had is always needed in good farming; but fields remote from manure yards, may frequently be enriched at less expense by green manure, than by carting farm-yard-dung upon them. This will be evident when we take into account the expense of drawing and spreading on the one hand, and the fact that a crop of vegetable growth is already upon the ground, spread as evenly as is desired, on the other.

* We have observed in all parts of the country, in the latter part of summer, pastures literally covered with an enormous growth of the common field thistle, (*Cnicus lanceolatus,*) so that little else could grow upon the land. If these, about the time of blossoming, were cut, raked in heaps with a horse rake, and allowed to ferment, they would furnish a vast amount of manure, and prevent the seeds spreading.

Liming Destroys Malaria.

It has been already shown in this journal, that one of the most important uses of lime is to absorb the gases which arise from fermentation, and which constitute the food of plants. Some of these vapors are mephitic; and it follows as a necessary consequence that their absorption by the lime must render the locality more salubrious,—converting the poison into aliment, the nuisance into a blessing. We are not positive, though we are inclined to believe, that E. Ruffin was the first writer who brought the subject fairly before the public. It has also been mentioned however, in an English work, the "Journal of a Naturalist;" and M. Puvis speaks of it in decided terms.

The author of the excellent "Essay on Calcareous Manures," has proposed the introduction of *Marl* into towns and cities, to purify the streets, cellars, and back yards; and in our opinion no proposition of more importance, has been made in modern times. There is reason to believe that had this measure been employed in 1832, thousands of our citizens might have been saved from the Asiatic Cholera. It is well known that a great disparity in cleanliness, has existed between the different cities; and a corresponding disparity in the number of deaths at the time of that awful epidemic; yet in no case that we are aware of, have the streets been cleansed except by water or by scraping. These methods however are not entirely efficient. Filth will settle in between the paving stones, which neither method, under ordinary circumstances, can remove; but which *marl*, as if by magic, would render perfectly harmless. "The Conservators of the Public Health" possess great power, and ought to use it.

"The streets ought to be sprinkled with marl," says the last mentioned writer, "and as often as circumstances may require. The various putrescent matters usually left in the streets of a town alone, serve to make the mud scraped from them a valuable manure; yet the principal part of the bulk of street mud is composed merely of barren clay, brought in upon the wheels of wagons from the country. Such a cover of calcareous earth would be the most effectual absorbent and preserver of putrescent matter, as well as the cheapest mode of keeping a town always clean. There would be less noxious or offensive effluvia, than is generated in spite of all the ordinary means of prevention; and by scraping up and removing the marl after it had combined with and secured enough of putrescent matter, a compost would be obtained for the use of the surrounding country, so rich and so abundant that its use would repay a large part, if not the whole of the expense incurred in its production. After twenty years of such a course, the surrounding farms might be capable of returning to the town a ten fold incresed surplus product.

Those who are habituated to breathe the pure air of the country, become very sensible of the noxious exhalations of the streets when they visit our cities, especially in the morning in hot clear weather before the wind rises, as it generally does, in the forenoon. But some localities are offensive at all seasons of the year. This is the case with slaughter houses; and it would be no unreasonable stretch of prerogative for our city and villages authorities to insist on the abatement of such nuisances by a liberal application of *marl* or quick lime. The *former* is the best for the following reasons: "Quick lime forms new combinations with putrescent substances; and in thus combining throws off effluvia, which though different from the products of putrescent matter alone, are still disagreeable and offensive. Mild lime on the contrary, absorbs and preserves every thing."*

It may now be proper to furnish some evidence of the salubrious influences of lime in the soil.

"My principal farm," says E. Ruffin, "until within some four or five years, was subject in *a remarkable degree* to the common mild autumnal diseases of our low country. Whether it is owing to marling, or other unknown causes, these *bilious diseases have since become comparatively rare.* Neither does my opinion in this respect, nor the facts that have occurred on my farm, stand alone. Some other persons are equally convinced of this change on other land as well as on mine."

He afterwards says in 1835, "The foregoing was first publishod in the Farmer's Register for July, 1833. It is proper here to add, that the two autumns that have since passed, have brought no circumstance to weaken the opinions advanced, and many that have served on the contrary to strengthen them."

* Essay on Calcareous Manures.

A correspondent of the Farmer's Register says, "The streets of Mobile are generally unpaved; and as a substitute for stone or gravel, which is not to be obtained, *shells* which have long been untenanted, are strewn over the carriage ways and side walks to the depth of several inches. These soon become a firm mass, and form a smooth surface, so as to resemble a M'Adamized road. The shells, which are of various kinds and generally small, are raked up in great quantities in the shallow lakes, and brought to the city in large lighters. *Mobile is much more healthy now than it was before this plan of improving the streets was adopted.*"

Another correspondent of the same paper, subsequently says, "A few days ago I saw a near connection who has just returned from a settlement which he has made on the Black Warrior, about 50 miles below Tuscaloosa. He spoke of the fact that *Mobile had become much more healthy within a few years,* without however assigning any cause. He also represented a very large portion of that country between Tuscaloosa and Mobile, as *calcareous* and abounding in *shell marl* or soft limestone. He says the country, if not more healthy, is certainly not more sickly than [the middle and hilly region of Virginia,] and that it appears to be *generally understood there that the marl preserves it from disease.*"

It appears from a letter dated at Mobile and published in the Farmer's Register, that until the year 1827 it was "counted unhealthy," not only because yellow fever had "raged like a pestilence" at different times, but also on account of bilious fevers. Various improvements however, were in progress, such as raising the streets above high tides, erecting brick buildings, &c. The writer says, in reference to these improvements, "Since 1827 the effect on the comfort and *health* of the place is abundantly obvious. Every street is *shelled*—all the alleys—many of the yards—all the public ware-house yards, and the tavern yards, are *shelled*—several of the streets are shelled for half a mile back, and one that meets a leading road is shelled over a mile—many of the cross streets are shelled, and ere long every street in the city will be shelled—it is indeed the settled policy. *Mobile has been uniformly healthy since* 1827. Last fall and this summer, while the Cholera raged so fatally in New Orleans, Mobile was visited with very few cases, and they excited little or no alarm. The deaths were four or five."

In another communication to the Editor of the Farmer's Register, it is said, "There is another fact connected with this part of the subject that strongly corroborates your views regarding the healthy action of calcareous earths on putrescent matter. The fact is that *the prairies have proved to be the healthiest part of the state,* notwithstanding the water is to all appearance bad, and is very unpleasant to the taste."

A correspondent of the Southern Agriculturist, in referring to the prairies of Alabama, writes as follows: "I think the country more healthy

than [South Carolina,] owing in part to its being more high, dry, and broken, and more under the influence of the strong trade winds; but *there must be a further reason*, because I have seen local causes enough to produce sickness here, in spite of the general causes of salubrity. Families reside with security on their prairie plantations all summer, in the midst of extensive clearings of rich land. *I think it must come from some purification of atmosphere arising from the immense quantity of lime on and near the surface of the soil.* The other lands in that country under similar circumstances, are not more healthy than in [South Carolina]."

We shall now present extracts from the "Essay on the use of Lime as a Manure." After referring to "emanations which attack the health of the inhabitants," M. Puvis says, "This unhappy effect appears almost no where in calcareous regions: the margins of lakes and ponds there situated, do not produce the same unhealthiness, and even the marshy grounds there are less unhealthy.

"Linnæus thought that the unhealthiness of most countries depended on the nature of the water, and was owing to the argillaceous particles which they contain. Now these *argillaceous particles are always precipitated by the calcareous compounds.* For this reason, the waters which stand upon, or run over marl or calcareous rock, are almost always *limpid and clear.*

"We are not far from believing then, that throwing *rich* marl or lime, into a well of muddy and brackish water, might have the effect, in part at least, of *clearing* it, and making it healthy to drink.

"Lime in all its combinations, destroys the miasmata dangerous to life. Its chloride annihilates all bad odors, arrests putrefaction, and in short, has subjected the plague of Egypt to the skill and courage of Parisot. The white-wash of lime upon infected buildings, upon the walls and mangers of stables, is regarded as serving to destroy the contagious miasmata of epidemic and epizootic diseases.

"The limed soil then, to the depth it is ploughed, ought to change its emanation as well as its products; and if the lower strata or subsoil send up emanations, these effluvia in passing through the improved layers of the soil, where the calcareous agent is always at work and developing all its affinities, ought also to be modified, and take the character of those of the upper bed. The limed soil then, it would seem, ought to be made healthy.

"But what we maintain here by induction, is fortunately a fact of extensive experience. *Among all the countries in which lime has carried and established fertility*, there is not cited that I know of, *a single one where intermittent fevers prevail*—while they have *never disappeared* in a country, even where an active culture draws good products from the impermeable argillo-silicious soil.

"To extend the great benefit of healthiness to the whole of a country, it is no doubt necessary that the whole country should receive this *health-giving agent.* On every farm, in proportion as liming is extended over its surface, the chances of disease will be seen to diminish; and *the healthiness of the country will keep pace with the progress of its fertility.*"

Temperature of September, 1836.

To this date, 20th Sept., the month has been warm we should think beyond precedent, and since the 11th the daily temperature shows an average of 73°. This is higher than the mean temperature of the hottest months of the last 6 years, which are July and August. The past August was a better representative of October than a summer month, having about it the usual vicissitudes of that month, and at last showing a mean temperature of 65°, while for the last five years the average daily temperature has been above 70°.

The prevalence of northerly winds point to the iccbergs from the northern seas as the cause, but whether these have paid their visit unusually early, or late, or in greater quantities than in past seasons, is left to conjecture. Yesterday, at 2 P. M., the mercury in the shade, exposed to a pretty strong current of air, stood at 87°—this is one degree higher than any register we have made this season. We judge of every thing by comparison, and the following table will very much assist us in making deductions.

The mean daily temperature of

Aug.	1831 was 70.	Sept.	60.9
	1832.....70.5		..62.8
	1833.....68		...63.5
	1834.....73.8		..65.
	1835.....68.7		..57.7
	1536.....65.		

Nineteen days of Sept. 1836, 65°—eight days last past, 73°—extreme heat 19th, 2 P. M., 87°.

A Promising Silk Company.

The Massachusetts Silk Company was incorporated at the last session of the Massachusetts Legislature, with a capital of $150,000. On receiving the Act of Incorporation, they immediately organized and chose Mr. Joseph R. Newell, of the New England Agricultural Warehouse, President.

They subsequently purchased the fine farm in Farmingham, lately belonging to Col. N. Fisk, containing 136 acres, and have made an addition of about 25 acres by purchasing an additional lot. They have 78,800 white mulberry trees, 7,300 of the Morus Multicaulis, now in a flourishing condition on the farm, besides a seed bed of two acres sown to White and Chinese Mulberry trees.

The Morus Multicaulis trees, on replanting were *laid*, so that the propagation therefrom will triple or quadruple. Between the rows of trees, potatoes were, this season cultivated, and the overseer estimates that he shall produce upwards of 1,000 bushels. 45 tons of hay were cut from the farm this season from ground not yet broken up and employed in the culture of the mulberry trees.

From the above, which was furnished us in substance from Mr. Brown, Treasurer of said Company, as well as from personal inspection of the Farm, &c. we are happy to perceive that the affairs of the Massachusetts Silk Company wear a promising aspect. On the 1st inst. the Editor, in company with a number of other stockholders in the concern, made an excursion from Boston to Framingham on the Worcester Rail Road, to view the above mentioned premises. We were much pleased with the Farm, and its improvements. The situation is pleasant, about two miles from the Rail Road; the soil a light fertile loam, precisely adapted to the culture of the mulberry. At each end is a swamp from which mud in any quantity may be taken and will prove valuable for manure. In short, every thing on and about the premises exceeded our expectations, and the little stock we hold in said *Massachusetts Silk Company* has (in our estimation) risen a hundred per cent in value since we viewed the Company-Farm, and learned its natural advantages and capabilities of improvements, and perceived that every object relating to silk culture indicated correct management.—*N. E. Far.*

Saving Pickles.

We are assured, by a person who knows by experience, that by the following method, cucumbers may be preserved a year without scalding again.

Dissolve a large coffee cup full of salt in six quarts of water, heat and scum it, and pour it boiling hot on three gallons of cucumbers that have been picked 24 hours, that they may have wilted a little, and let them remain three days and nights; then turn off that water, and pour on another quantity prepared in the same manner, and let it remain the same length of time. Take the cucumbers out of the water, and let them drain on a cloth till dry; then put them into a vessel and pour on good vinegar, scalding hot, and add spices if you please.

In preserving pickles, it is very important to have vinegar of a suitable degree of strength; if it be very strong it will corrode and destroy them, and if it be weak the pickles will be poor, and will not keep long, especially in warm weather. If one third part cider be added to very strong vinegar, it will be strong enough. We have endeavored to *temper* the vinegar by mixing weak and strong together, or adding cider to that which is too strong. But we have not been able generally to save pickles long in hot weather without scalding them, and even then it is attended with uncertainty. We have heard many observe, that they have had no better success. We usually have cucumbers in salt, and prepare them in vinegar as they are wanted; this method is sure, but attended with much trouble. We think that the above method of preserving pickles will be good, as a small quantity of salt is necessary to give them a relish, and owing to the conservative qualities of the salt, less strength in the vinegar will be necessary, and the salt may counteract the corrosive nature of the vinegar.—*Yankee Far.*

The Weevil.—We understand that this destructive insect has done considerable damage to wheat in some parts of this state. Some fine pieces have been nearly destroyed. Farmers have been apprised of a remedy in sowing broadcast upon the wheat, just as it is heading out, fine slacked lime, when the wheat is wet or the dew on; but they have in general neglected to apply this remedy, and suffered the insects to feed upon their hard earnings. This is to be regretted as the remedy is very simple and cheap, and it would have saved much grain in this season of scarcity.

A farmer in Kennebunk, in a communication to the Kennebunk Gazette, states that as soon as he found these insects making ravages among his wheat, he sowed on it common wood ashes, when the dew was on, and in a few days, on examining his wheat, he found that they had entirely disappeared, and that his wheat looked full and heavy headed. Farmers, remember this and do likewise. Will that farmer please inform us how much ashes he sowed to the acre?—*Yankee Farmer.*

Farmers might easily save the flesh of horses and cows, and confer great kindness on their animals, in preventing the usual annoyance of flies, by simply washing the parts with the extract of Pennyroyal. Flies will not alight a moment on the spot to which this has been applied. Every man who is compassionate to his beast, ought to know this simple remedy, and every livery stable and country inn, ought to have a supply on hand for travelers.—*Ib.*

A French scientific Journal certifies to the efficacy of common salt in fixing white wash made of lime. The water in which lime is slaked, should be first saturated with salt. The white wash thus produced is permanent. It does not crack, nor come off upon one's hand or clothes.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Seeding Lands.

BY W. G.

It has appeared to me that there is no operation of the farmer, in proportion to its importance, so imperfectly performed as the seeding of grass lands. The practice of a rotation in crops, by which grass and wheat alternate at short intervals, and the evident improvement of the soil indicated by the increased products, where the system has been most fairly conducted, renders the inquiry as to the best time for seeding, and the quantity to be sown, of much greater consequence than formerly. On land suitable for wheat, experience has satisfactorily proved that, for a course of rotation, there is no grass that can be compared with clover. Its large thick roots, its luxuriant growth, and the immense benefit it derives from plaster, place it decidedly foremost as an ameliorator of the soil. But where grass seeds are sown on lands, it is necessary that the whole surface should be occupied, and clover seed is so high that most farmers are compelled to use it with a sparing hand; the consequence is, that large intervals occur between the roots, into which weeds of various kinds find admittance, and spread rapidly, to the great annoyance and injury of the farmer.

To remedy this inconvenience, avoid the expense of clover seed, and yet effect a complete seeding of the land, is the great object to be attained by the farmer, and the mixture of various grasses, and in different proportions, with the clover seed, has been resorted to, with a success depending on the kinds, quantity, and soil. To mix with the clover seed, timothy or herds grass seed has been found to be the best on land suitable to the culture of wheat, and the quantity of each to be used will depend on the kind of soil to which it is to be applied. If sand predominates in the soil, then five-eighths or three-fourths of the seed used should be clover seed—if the soil is rich loam, less than one half of clover seed will be sufficient—and if it is inclining to clay, but one-fourth of clover seed should be used in the mixture.

In seeding land, whatever may be the seeds used, nothing is done as it ought to be, unless the quantity of seed applied is sufficient to occupy the whole ground. The soil should be filled with grass roots, and its surface covered with the leaves, or all the benefits to be derived from the grass rotation cannot be derived. If the soil is very rich, either naturally or by manure, less seed of course will be required than when the ground is poor; the general rule in this case is, *the poorer the soil the greater the quantity of grass seed required;* seven or eight pounds to an acre of rich land occupying the ground as effectually as twenty pounds on that which is poor and exhausted.

The quantity that may be advantageously used per acre, has been variously estimated by different agriculturists, both in Europe and in this country. To show the quantity used in England when seeding for meadow, I copy from the Complete Grazier the following estimates:—"The following proportions were sown a few years since by the Earl of Darlington: white or Dutch clover 17 pounds, clean hay seed 14 bushels, rib grass 1½ pounds, and trefoil 1½ pounds." Mr. Dalton, an experienced agriculturist, recommends—"hay seed six bushels, rib grass 12 pounds, white or Dutch clover 8 pounds, and burnet 5 pounds." Mr. Curtis, for superior meadow or pasture, recommends the following:—"Meadow fescue grass 1 pint, meadow foxtail grass 1 pint, rough-tailed meadow grass ½ pint, smooth stalked meadow grass ½ pint, crested dogstail ½ pint, sweet scented spring grass ½ pint, white clover ½ pint, and red clover ½ pint." Of seeds mixed in these proportions, three bushels are to be sown on an acre. For an acre of low land, the following mixture and quantity is recommended in the Grazier: "Meadow foxtail 2 pecks, meadow fescue 2 pecks, rough stalked pea grass 2 pecks, ray grass one peck, vernal grass 1 quart, white clover 2 quarts, marl grass 2 quarts, and rib grass 2 quarts."

When we compare the quantities here recommended with those usually sown in this country, they undoubtedly appear extravagant in the extreme, and there can be no doubt that the highest rates quoted above actually are so. No good could result from sowing 12 or 14 bushels of grass seeds on an acre, and the loss would be a wilful one; but the most moderate estimates of the Grazier, are from a bushel to three bushels per acre, which very greatly exceeds any quantity used in this country in seeding. Extremes in farming are always to be shunned, and perhaps we are as much below the mark as it seems clear some of these estimates are above.

In the memoirs of the "New York Board of Agriculture," a number of the first farmers in Rensselaer county concur in saying, that 8 quarts of a mixture of clover and timothy seed is sufficient for an acre. Another gentlemen prefers sixteen quarts, assigning as a reason that when the grass and clover grow thick, it will be more tender feed, make finer hay, and will not run out as soon. In the same paper, several other gentlemen think that four quarts per acre is sufficient. Payson Williams, an agriculturist of Massachusetts, and very successful, in describing the mode of culture adopted by him, says: "The quantity of grass seed used by me, is never less than 12 pounds of clover seed, and one peck of timothy, per acre." This would be at the rate of about 14 quarts per acre, which we should prefer to any similar quantity for ordinary soils, though it cannot be doubted that on some soils in good heart or highly manured, eight or ten quarts would do very well. It is to be remembered, however, that the great danger lies in putting on grass seed with too sparing a hand, and that if we do not occupy the soil with grass, nature will assuredly do it with weeds.

As to the time of seeding, the spring is to be preferred, unless in cases where pure herdsgrass is to be sown; then sowing after the wheat is harrowed in may be advisable. But where clover, or a mixture of clover, is used, the spring is the best, as the young plants, when sown in the fall, are liable to be thrown out and destroyed by the frost. The sooner the seed is put in in the spring the better, as it acquires root and vigor to withstand the heat and drouth of summer more certainly than when sown later. Some distinguished American farmers have recommended harrowing in the seed, when sown on winter wheat, in the spring of the year, maintaining that the loss of the few roots torn up by the process, was far more than balanced by the service rendered the others, and the practice is a common one in Europe. Grass seeds may be sown with any of the spring grains, such as spring wheat, oats, or barley, and harrowed in with them. Of the three, we have generally succeeded best with barley. Mr. Clark, of Northampton, has, within a few years, introduced a new mode of seeding lands, which with him has been very successful, and which, should it prove of general application, must be considered a decided improvement. Mr. Clark turns over the land, the seeding of which he wishes to renew, manures and makes the surface perfectly smooth and level, plants with corn, which he cultivates without hilling in the least, and at the last hoeing sows the field liberally with his grass seeds, which are thus covered and placed in a situation for vegetation. At the proper season his corn is cut close to the ground, and the next season he has a fine meadow, or pasture, as the case may be. In renewing worn out meadows, it appears this plan must succeed well, as it is evident the manure will be much more effectual, applied in this way to the formation of new roots and plants, than if scattered over the meadows in the usual manner, while the crop of corn may, in most cases, be considered as clear gain. W. G.

There are none of us who do as well as WE KNOW!

This was the remark of one of our most enterprising and prosperous farmers to me the other day, as we accidentally met, and entered into conversation respecting the advantages to be derived from the general diffusion of agricultural knowledge, and it appeared to me to convey to farmers a moral which would amply repay a little reflection and application.

Farmers, like other classes of men, are eagle-eyed in discovering the errors and faults of others in the same business or profession, and like the rest of mankind, when they hear the follies or absurdities, or errors of the age pointed out, apply it all to their neighbors, and "thank God the preacher does not mean me." A little farming self examination would I suspect convince the most of us that the remark of our friend is literally true; but there are few men who, so far as they are concerned, are willing to have their farming delinquencies placed before them, or be shown how often the cases occur in which they "do not as well as they know." I am half inclined to give my brother farmers an example of this moral courage, and lay before them, as I have called them up to myself, some few of the instances in which during the past year I did not do as well as I knew how. If any reader should plead guilty to the same or similar errors, let them remember, "he who confesses should always mend."

Item first—I did not bring my cattle and sheep through the winter in as good heart and order as I might and should, because I did not treat them altogether as well as I knew how. With plenty of straw, and hay, and roots, laid up for their use, they should, barring casualties, have come through the winter safe, and such a serious per

centage in the shape of losses been avoided. The truth is, I neglected properly arranging my yards and stalls in the fall, so that my stock were injured by one another; I did not separate my sheep as early as I knew I should have done, and the consequence was that the strong grew stronger, and the weak weaker, till the death of several ewes and lambs, and the feeble condition of others, convinced me there was no time to be lost in resorting to divisions, and higher feeding.

Item second—I am thoroughly convinced that manure, to be of the most benefit, should be applied to such crops as require it the most immediately, and will feel it the most promptly; for instance, I wish to follow barley, potatoes, or corn, with wheat, and I know that in this case it is best to apply the manure intended to operate on the wheat to these crops, as it will prove equally efficacious to the wheat, and in many instances nearly double the preparatory crops. But I did not do as well as I knew, and the result is, my barley, corn, and potatoes, are light, and I have been obliged, in the heat of summer and the hurry of harvest, to empty my yards and draw the manure to my fields intended for wheat. By this management I lose two ways,—I lose the addition to the spring crops, and I lose the difference between the price of labor in the month of March or April, and that of July or August.

Item third—I know that in the raising of corn, or the cultivation of roots, such as the ruta baga, mangel wurtzel, &c., it is indispensably necessary that the ground should be kept clean of weeds, and the surface rendered light and mellow by repeated hoeings or ploughings, until the leaves are considerably expanded, and of course the weeds checked, and the ground prevented from baking, by their shade. Yet such has not been my management. I planted my corn, and not a plough or cultivator has been into it since. An apology for once hoeing has been attempted in the cutting down of the weeds and grass early in the season, since which it has been left to chance and its own resources. It is true, owing to its being drowned in the spring and the attacks of the wire worm, much corn could not have been expected, yet the benefits of thorough hoeings would have been felt in the extirpation of weeds, and the cleanness of the next year's crop. Much in the same predicament has been my field of ruta baga. In the first place I did not plough the piece until a few days before I wished to sow the seed, though I knew that to ensure a good crop and clean fine ground, it should have been ploughed early and repeatedly. The seed was sown and came up finely, showing plants enough for full three times the quantity of land occupied, yet they remained unthinned for a month after the operation should have been performed, and to this day part of them have not been hoed or wed at all. The probability is, that with proper care and attendance I should have grown a great crop, for I am convinced by experience, that four or five days' works on an acre of turneps at the proper time, will make a difference in the product of one or two hundred bushels; still the work was not applied, and the consequence will be, reduction from an ordinary crop to that amount per acre.

There are some minor delinquencies, that a review of the last season's farming calls up, yet these are the principal ones, and will probably have the most decided effects on the profits of the year.

Perhaps some will ask, if you knew in all these cases, at the time, you was wrong, why did you not correct your proceedings?—why did you not do as well as you knew? Fair and softly, Mr. Inquirer,—you shall have an answer, but if you please just survey your own farming operations, and see if from your own experience you cannot divine a cause of these malpractices. The truth is, with me these errors in farming may all be traced to a single fundamental one, and that one was laying out more work than with my limited means I could perform, and perform well and in season, and the result is as I have stated. In other words, I farm too much land for the capital I can expend upon it in labor, and the necessary consequence is, that some part of the business can be but half done, and all of it more or less slighted. Every year's additional experience in farming myself, and every years observation of the management of others, serves to confirm my opinion, that if it is necessary to do just so much every year, it is better to employ help enough to do the work well and thoroughly, and reap the full benefit of it, than, by half doing what is necessary, actually cause what is done to be a dead loss.

With an increased conviction of the correctness of the above positions, I submit this exposition of my farming errors; it remains to be seen whether I shall benefit myself by recording them, and whether my farming friends will be induced to examine their own system of proceeding, profit by my exposure, and timely correct their own errors. MADISON.

Selecting Seed Corn.

SIR—In the Genesee Farmer of the 3d inst. I saw a method of selecting seed corn, which I approve as far as it goes, but from forty years' practice I will state, that I invariably go into my field of corn before I harvest, and where I find two or more sound ears on a stalk, I take the top ear, which is always the largest and best filled. About twenty years since, I selected 18 ears of the top and 18 of the next to the top ears, and traced them separate, labeled them, and the next spring planted them near together, and in the fall it was judged by different persons, that the top ears were from ten to twelve days earliest ripe.

Yours, &c. J. H.

Lockport, Sept. 17, 1836.

From the Cultivator.

A Hint to Farmers.

J. BUEL—In the fall of 1835, I gathered about 150 bushels of good sound apples, of different kinds, and put them into my cellar, for the purpose of feeding them to my stock of cattle and pigs, to see what effect they would have. When hard weather commenced, I had two cows that gave milk; I put them into a stable, and commenced feeding the two cows with half a bushel of apples to each cow per day. I charged the boy who milked them to see if the cows increased in their milk, and the third day the boy says that the cows gave about double the quantity that they did before I fed them with the apples; and the young woman that had the charge of the milk, says that the butter that was made from the milk of those cows at the time of feeding them with apples, was of a fine yellow color.

I likewise commenced feeding them to my pigs; I fed about one bushel a day to thirteen pigs, with a small portion of corn, and I now defy the state to bring thirteen as good pigs as mine, that have had no better keeping.

I had gathered about two hundred and fifty bushels of good sound apples, and put them into a good bin in my carriage house, with the intent of making them into cider; but before I got ready to make them into cider, the cold weather came on, and my apples froze. I immediately covered them with blankets, and they remained in that situation till the thaw, in the latter part of December; I then commenced feeding them to my stock of cattle, which consisted of 22 head and two colts; I fed them about ten bushels per day; I soon found that my cattle would not eat half the quantity of hay that they did before I commenced feeding them with apples, and when the apples were gone, I could perceive that my cattle had gained in flesh, and looked better. I think that my apples, what I have fed out to my stock of cattle this winter, have been to me more worth than though I had made them into cider, and sold it for one dollar per barrel.

ELEAZER CADY.

Canaan, February 16, 1836.

From the Northampton Courier.

Culture of Silk.

From the correspondence of Gen. Tallmadge, it appears—

1. That one great source of national wealth of France is the product of the Vineyard, under the culture of the husbandman—and the Silk worm, under the fostering care of the wife.

2. That in *Italy*, partially, and chiefly in *France*, the culture of silk is carried on by private and individual industry.

3. That a damp climate is injurious to the silk worm—and that the culture of silk does not prosper *near the ocean.*

4. That France does not produce one half of the raw silk which she manufactures. Her population is so dense that she cannot furnish sufficient space for mulberry trees.

5. That the warm dry summers of the inland parts of the United States are admirably fitted for the culture of silk in families, and that we shall succeed in it *That when the leaves of different kinds of mulberries are mixed together, the worms will select and gather the Chinese Mulberry.*

6. That in Europe the mulberry trees are cut off and kept dwarfed, for the convenience of gathering leaves.

7. That although the Chinese mulberry is vastly superior to any other for feeding silk worms, yet from the inaptitude of French farmers to change habits, there are comparatively but few of the Chinese mulberry set out in France. At this time there are probably growing in America more Chinese mulberry than in all Europe. Even after the experience of ages, Europeans are said to act more from usage and habit, than skill and experience. The demand for the mulberry in America is so great, that the French this year have sold us 100 trees where they have set out 10 for their own use.

Remarks on the foregoing.

If silk is one of the greatest sources of national wealth to France and not land enough to grow its mulberry, and are necessitated to import raw silk, why cannot the culture become of equal importance to the wealth and prosperity of these United States, where we have land enough and to spare?

If in some parts of Europe the culture of silk is *chiefly* done in families and by private individuals, why cannot we do the same ourselves? "We can and we will do it. It has already been done in Mansfield, Ct.; they have no special act of government to enable them to do it, yet they annually make and sell over 30,000 dollars worth of silk, all made in families. Even the town of Northampton, Mass., has one enterprising gentleman, who removed from Mansfield some forty or fifty years since, and brought with him a portion of the *silk habit*, and has, as we are told, from only a few trees, manufactured annually for

40 years not less than 75 dollars worth of sewing silk. This has been done in a *silent* and *unostentatious* manner, like other domestic employments, not sung in verse, or known scarcely a stone's throw from his residence. But how different at this time! Now, Northampton takes a prominent stand—is the very focus of silk culture—possessing the knowledge and information necessary and requisite to the prosperity of the silk business.

If a damp location and the sea air be unfavorable to the health of the silk worm, there is plenty of room, high and dry, in the interior section of the Union, exempt from the evil. Where elevated dry soil and pure air abounds, therefore, let not these advantages be neglected.

If the territory of France is so much covered with inhabitants that there is not spare room for mulberry trees sufficient for the silk manufactured there, we trust that America can never urge that as an apology why we should not raise all the silk needed for our national use, but we hope the enterprising spirit of our people will yet enable them to export many millions to other nations, instead of importing annually, as we now do, about *seventeen millions* worth of silk materials. Of course, so much cash must be sent out of the country every year to pay for it. That silk worms will select the *Chinese* in preference to any other kind of mulberry, has been well attested, and from its use more silk is obtained.

Now if we have one of the most favorable climates for the culture of silk, let us not sleep as do others, but spread the mulberry throughout our fertile valleys, and cover our granite hills. Improve these sources of wealth which are within the grasp of Yankee industry and perseverance, and instead of wandering to the "far west" in pursuit of what all cannot obtain, let us go ahead, well harnessed with silken cords, and raise an abundance of that nourishment for the silk worm, the Chinese mulberry, which is necessary to speed the reel and shuttle, whether done in family or factories.

It is a singular fact, that while in Europe, and even in China, the *garden of silk*, experience has convinced cultivators of the expediency of heading them down or cutting off the mulberry every year, for the convenience of gathering foliage —that, at the *same* time, we have adopted the *same* method, not only for the same purposes, but also for augmenting the foliage, propagating the trees, and as a certain and sure protection from the severity of the climate.

As Europeans are trammeled by the habits and customs of their predecessors, so are we. We have our corn and other crops, the culture of which has been transmitted from father to son ever since the settlement of the country; and having such veneration for our fathers' habits of industry and sameness of crops, although twice the profits might be had from other crops. But these prejudices are fast giving way to the light of science and agricultural improvement, aided by the press and publications of the day.

SILK CABINET.

Agriculture in Rhode Island.

A short visit to Newport and Bristol in Rhode Island, has given me a favorable impression of their husbandry; in some cases, I am almost disposed to call it gardening. Rhode Island, properly so called, on which Newport is situated, lies on the eastern shore of the state, to which it gives name, and stretches from southeast to northwest, a distance of about fourteen miles, and with an average width of three miles. It is surrounded by deep water, and has in general a bold rock shore, with very little salt marsh, and as well as I could judge, no swampy ground in the interior. It lays in the bay like a large whale reposing on the surface of the sea, without any great elevation, but gradually rising on its eastern and western sides longitudinally to an agreeable and beautiful height in the center. It is almost entirely destitute of any other than ornamental trees; but there are a good many of these, though we regretted among these to see that the common wood predominated, as it is almost as great an impoverisher of the soil as the Lombardy poplar. The moisture of the climate gives to the landscape that bright and beautiful green, which is said to characterize the British Islands, and which the Emperor Napoleon so much admired. The island seems based upon a rock, a kind of slaty granite; and the water, which is easily obtained, is of an excellent quality. In the north-west part of the Island anthracite coal abounds, but the coal is not of so good a kind as to encourage further operations, and the mine, at least for the present, is abandoned. In general, the soil is a deep dark loam, in the southern parts more mixed with sand than in the northern, comparatively free from stone; and although it produces good crops of Indian corn, yet it seems more favorable to grass, oats, and potatoes. The fences are in general of stone, high and well built; the fields, a rare thing in New England, dividing generally into rectangular lots; and in the southern parts of the Island are fertile, richly manured, and under high cultivation. The farmers are most of them the independent possessors of the soil which they cultivate; and the houses and buildings generally in the country are remarkably neat; some in the neighborhood of the town are tasteful and elegant. Without the town I do not recollect a single house that was in a state of dilapidation, or that looked like the abode of intemperance and vagabondage. We may reasonably infer that, there being among the inhabitants a large proportion of Quakers, who are ordinarily models of neatness and good domestic management, has had in these respects a favorable influence. The climate, to those who like the proximity of the sea, is delightful in the warm months; it is milder in winter, and it is much colder in summer than places more inland.

The stock kept upon the island are principally sheep; and these chiefly of what are called the old fashioned Merino, with very little mixture of Saxony; the average yield of fleece from three to four pounds; and bringing in the market from fifty to sixty cents per pound. On land averaging in value one hundred dollars per acre, and with hay at fifteen to twenty dollars per ton, though the price in years past has been about ten dollars per ton, sheep husbandry would seem hardly to be profitable, though they say that "sheep pay better than any other stock;" as indeed well it may, as who would think in such circumstances of raising neat cattle to advantage, when the value of a yearling would not be so much as that of a calf six weeks old. They are wise in desiring to consume all their hay upon the place, for although the farms on the sea shore are favorably situated for procuring sea manure, yet in the interior they require all the manure they can make on their farms. Many swine are fatted on the island, and a very large amount of poultry, especially geese and turkeys, raised. For these a ready market is always to be found, but with what profit they are raised is another matter. As long as the geese are fed in the highways, the expense is nothing; but whoever undertakes to fat either geese or turkeys at the corn crib, or, as some permit them, to feed themselves among the standing corn, we advise to count the cost.

We saw extensive fields of oats, which appeared highly promising, and some most luxuriant fields of barley, already suffering from their own weight. The crops of barley have for several years been cut off by an insect, whose depredations are similar to those of the wheat worm, and for which no remedy has yet been discovered. The crops of corn sometimes gives fifty and sixty bushels to the acre, but the average yield is about thirty. The grass, principally herdsgrass and red top, which is a favorite grass in Rhode Island, with very little of clover, under the best cultivation, will yield two and a half tons to the acre; though this would be a very great average. As far as my own observation goes, the red top, though a most excellent hay for all kinds of stock, never yields a great weight of hay to the acre. The average crop of potatoes is about 200 bush. per acre. Rhode Island heretofore has been remarkable for the quality of its potatoes. A kind called the Elam potatoe, a long white kidney potatoe, taking its name from a gentleman who first cultivated it there, was a long time celebrated, but has given place to the pink-eye and the Chenango. A very great crop here, and one more cultivated at Bristol, is the onion. The cultivation is said to have declined somewhat on this island, the crops for some cause not having yielded so well as formerly; but at Bristol, about fifteen miles from Newport, it is pursued very extensively and successfully. The produce of the onion crop last year in Bristol, I have been credibly informed, exceeded thirty thousand dollars. The red onion is that which is principally collected, being the greatest favorite in the West India market. The cultivation of the crop is simple and well understood. A good crop will give from four to five hundred bushels. The cost of cultivation very much exceeds that of corn; some give it as their opinion, that three times as much labor is demanded on an acre of onions as on an acre of corn. They are subject to few casualties, provided the seed is good, and the seed is never safe if more than one year old. It is a singular feature in the habits of this plant, that it bears planting year after year, without any diminution of the crop on the ground. I saw one field of two or three acres on which onions had been grown every year for more than forty years, and with equal success. The land pays for manuring well, though they are not particular as to the kind of manure applied, preferring, however, a rich compost to green manure. The large sized onions are put in barrels; the smaller sized are strung in bunches, the weight of the bunches being about three and a half pounds. The land is marked out in rows about one foot wide with a machine resembling a boy's sled with four runners, making three rows at a time, one runner being kept in the fourth track of the last marking. The seed is then dropt and covered very slightly by hand in hills about six inches distant in the row, and four plants are generally left standing in each hill. The great business afterwards is to hoe them, and keep them free from weeds. Two kinds are cultivated, an early and late kind. The former are usually ripe in August, and sent to the market as soon as may be after ripening. The crop upon the whole is of easy and profitable cultivation. I was at the house of one farmer on the island, who keeps about one hundred sheep, and who the last winter applied his onions, which were too small for the market, to the feeding of sheep, and he adds, with advantage to the sheep; a use of onions, I venture to say, altogether novel. The advantage of obtaining sea manure both at Newport and Bristol are very great, but particularly at the former place. Vast quantities are constantly driven upon the shore by winds and tides, and much is gathered in boats from the rocks. It is used in compost and as top-dressing. The eelgrass is seldom used but in composts, and principally as litter for swine; the rockweed has great effect when applied as top-dressing on grass ground. Common beach sand is likewise used as top-dressing and in compost with advantage. I have myself tried it in moist cold soil, in the hill for potatoes, with success. But one of their principal manures is the "Manhayden fish," a small fish in appearance resembling the herron or elewive. These are taken in great quantities, in large seines, and are sold at the rate of fourteen cents per barrel for manure. They are most frequently spread broadcast among the growing corn, and left undisturbed upon the surface, or they are carried into the barn yard and mixed in compost. Their effects in either case are said to be very powerful. The odor of them, while rotting in the field, is most certainly powerful.

It is obvious that I could give but a cursory view of the agriculture of these places. But I can say with propriety, that their agriculture, though admitting many obvious improvements, is highly respectable; and the island, from its remarkable salubrity, the fertility of the soil, and the beauty and many advantages of its situation, seems destined to become a favorite place of residence for industrious and enterprising cultivators and improvers of the soil, and of luxurious resort to the fashionable and wealthy. The isl-

and contains an inexhaustible supply of excellent building stone; of which two large cotton factories, propelled by steam, have already been erected, and others are in embryo. The population of Newport at present is about eight thousand; there is every encouraging prospect of its large increase. The projected and indeed half finished rail-road between Providence and Stonington, in Connecticut, seems likely to divert the travel between Boston and New York into that direction.—*N. Y. Farmer.*

From the Silk Grower and Agriculturist.

Black Sea Spring Wheat.

Friend Cooke—At the close of the ingathering of our Hay and English Grain crops, I with pleasure, seize a few moments to pen a few reflections on the value and culture of Wheat in the New England States. The reason for choosing the wheat crop as my theme, are, first, that by a careful attention to its culture, much of our money might be kept within our borders, which now goes to the South and West for the purchase of flour; secondly, that if we take 10 or 15 seasons in succession, we shall find a balance in profit to be placed to the credit of the Wheat crop over all other grain.

In giving some proof of the above facts, I will state, that some 12 or 15 years since, I obtained of the Hon. P. C. Brooks two bushels of a spring wheat bearing the name "Gilman." The product from this was about 25 bushels, for which I received the Massachusetts Agricultural Society's premium for "the greatest quantity of Spring Wheat from one acre." This kind of wheat did well, generally, during the 8 or 10 years I sowed it; the kernel was large, weighing 60 lbs. to the bushel; the straw, however, was not of sufficient *strength* for rich lands,—crippling down with the first thunder-gust, and of course would not fill, or kernel well afterwards. From the Gilman wheat, the largest crop obtained by me from one acre, was 37½ bushels, I believe, (for I speak only from recollection.)

Several years since, I was fortunate in receiving, (by the kindness of my brother, Capt. Stephen Williams,) some superior seed wheat, from Smyrna, grown on the abundant borders of the Black Sea. After the first year, this kind of wheat has been unparalleled in its value, so far as I have been made acquainted. Three years ago I harvested 112 bushels, grown on a little over three acres, one of which produced over 50 bushels for which I received the Society's gratuity (there not being a premium for *Spring* Wheat that year,) of $20. On another field, of about one acre, I obtained about 25 bushels by the following mode of culture. Early in the fall, after the field was well covered with a second growth of clover and other grasses, the sward—by the agency of a man, (ploughman and driver,) one yoke of oxen, and Howard's No. 2 Plough, was turned over, so as to resemble the clapboarding of a house. In the spring following, so soon as the ground was sufficiently dry, a light ploughing was given across the furrows, so as not to disturb the furrowslice,—the field then sowed and harrowed. It will be seen that the expense attending this mode of culture was trifling, compared with the income; the land likewise being left in excellent order for a following crop of Indian Corn, or Potatoes, by ploughing in the spring through the first furrowslice or rotted sward. I deem it not out of place here to observe that this field, six years previous, had been stocked down to grass with a previous dressing of 18 cords manure to the acre. The grass crops had probably averaged two tons to the acre, of the best of hay, (of clover, herds grass, and red top.) I mention this to show that the farmers of this country are too apt to till more land than they can manure *profitably*.

The Smyrna or Black Sea Wheat appears to possess properties superior to *all* other kinds which have come within my observation; these qualities are *strength* of *straw*, thereby bearing better the peltings of our New England storms: the kernal large and plump, with large yield on *rich* land, weighing 62 lbs. per bushel,—and more in bushels on *poor land*, than spring rye.

Last season my crop of wheat was about 80 bushels; about one half was disposed of for sowing, at $2,50 per bushel. 35 of these bushels were grown on less than an acre, which also received a gratuity of $20, (by the decision of the Committee on Crops for the Mass. Ag'rl Soc.) What the product will be from the sowings of this year, I am unable to state,—not any of it having been threshed. I will state that my own field (being in very rich tilth) is not so well kernelled as last year. The reason for this may be found in its *too rapid* growth for about 12 successive days, previous to the formation of the berry or kernal, followed by successive and deluging showers, which has often beat the crop nearly down. On harvesting the wheat, the kernel is more plump than was expected during the four weeks previous to the cutting; the crop will not much exceed 30 bushels to the acre; with such a season as last, it would probably have been over 50.

In giving the above facts, Mr. Editor, my aim has been, to establish in the minds of the agricultural community in this section of our country, what is so strongly impressed on my own, viz. that in most of the New England states, the husbandman can take a greater profit from his acres, in a wheat crop, than in a like number of acres in any other grain.* There will doubtless be solitary exceptions, especially where the sower casts his seed upon the ground with much *faith* and little *works*, as it will be recollected, that wheat *demands* a fine tilth, with a previous *nullification* of the authority of certain interlopers, commonly called *weeds*.

My method in preparing seed wheat for sowing, is to mix a sufficiency of thick white wash, made from good lime, to coat over every kernal, say one quart to a bushel of seed: lie, from wood ashes, will answer as well, except the sowing cannot be performed so evenly. I have never been troubled with the smut on a crop thus prepared.

If the farmer can procure 20 bushels of good wood ashes for every acre of wheat, to be sown on the wheat plants when two inches out of ground, he will be amply remunerated.

Thirty or forty bushels of the Smyrna, or Black Sea Wheat, (perfectly clean,) may be had at the granery of, Yours. respectfully,

Fitchburg, Aug. 24, 1836. Payson Williams.

On the Use of Camphor in Horticulture.—Camphor is dissolved in alcohol until the latter is saturated; the alcohol is then put into soft water, in the proportion of two drops to half an ounce. Withered, or apparently dead plants, put into this liquid, and allowed to remain there from two to four hours, will revive, if they have not been completely dead before being put in.

On the Propagation of Vines.—Cuttings are made from one and a half feet to two feet in length, and all the buds removed from them except one at the upper extremity. The shoot is then laid in the soil, to the depth of six inches, the end having the bud being brought up to the surface. A vigorous shoot is made in the first year; and in the second year the plants, if not removed, will bear fruit.

Mr. Abel Williams of Ashfield, has invented a machine which he calls the *Potatoe Cutter*, by which, in three minutes time, a bushel of Potatoes—Turnips—Apples—Pumpkins and other fruit, may be cut sufficiently fine for sheep—cows—and other cattle. The price of the machine is from $2 to 2 50. It may be seen at the Cattle Show Oct. 12th, 1836, in this town. We hope some of our mechanics will invent a *simple cheap machine* for rasping Beets, applicable to family use, as we are satisfied it can be done.—*Northampton Courier.*

* Having cultivated wheat for the last 16 years as my principal grain crop—my confidence will not be considered too sanguine, when I state, that during that period I have had the honor, good fortune, or whatsoever term it may pass by, but, most assuredly, the *profit*, of receiving as many of the premiums and gratuities bestowed by the Massachusetts Agricultural Society; with an additional *profit* of $70 from the acre, in two of the above years, in the sale of grain for sowing and other purposes. Others can do even *more* than this, if they will but "*try*."

Meteorological Table,

KEPT AT ROCHESTER, FOR AUGUST, 1836.

	10 A. M.				10 P. M.			
Days.	therm.	barom-eter.	winds.	sky.	therm.	barom-eter.	winds.	sky.
1	72	29,55	N W	fair*a*	62	29,65	N W	fair
2	68	29,80	N E	do	62	29,65	N E	do
3	70	29,50	S W	do	70	29,40	S W	cloudy*c*
4	70	29,65	N	do*b*	60	29,70	W	do
5	76	29,80	N E	do	60	29,80	E	fair
6	68	29,70	S W	cloudy*b*	67	29,65	S W	cloudy
7	76	29,65	W	fair	64	29,70	W	fair
8	78	29,70	S W	do	60	29,65	N E	cloudy*a*
9	60	29,80	N E	do	52	29,75	N	fair
10	65	29,65	E	cloudy*a*	60	29,50	E	cloudy
11	68	29,50	W	fair	56	29,60	W	fair
12	70	29,70	N E	do	60	29,65	N	cloudy
13	78	29,50	E	do	66	29,35	N W	do*a*
14	72	29,45	W	do	62	29,55	W	fair
15	76	29,60	N E	do	56	29,60	E	do*d*
16	68	29,65	E	do	60	29,70	E	do
17	74	29,70	S W	do	78	29,40	S W	do
18	62	29,60	S W	do	72	29,30	W	do
19	70	29,30	S W	cloudy	58	29,50	N W	do
20	54	29,65	W	fair	52	29,65	N W	do
21	65	29,50	N W	do	57	29,50	W	cloudy*a*
22	58	29,65	N	do	52	29,75	N W	fair
23	64	29,75	S	do	52	29,65	W	do
24	56	29,70	E	do	56	29,70	E	do
25	72	29,70	S W	do	76	29,55	W	do
26	74	29,60	N	do	70	29,60	S W	do
27	74	29,60	N E	do	82	29,60	S W	do
28	62	29,55	E	do	68	29,50	S W	do
29	78	29,40	S W	do*b*	60	29,35	W	cloudy*c*
30	54	29,55	W	cloudy	50	29,55	N W	fair
31	70	29,55	S W	fair	60	29,40	W	do

Mean.—Ther. 65.00—Bar. 29.43—Rain 1.8 in.
a Rainy—*b* showers—*c* rainy, thunder showers—*d* spring water 54°.

20,000 GENUINE Morus multicaulis, or Chinese Mulberrry, of one and two years' growth, by the dozen, hundred or thousand.

Also—30,000 White *M*ulberry, of one and two years' growth—for sale by ASA ROWE.

Greece, August 3, 1836.

25,000 Mulberry Trees.

WE have 25,000 White Italian Mulberry Trees 3 years old, which we will sell at $25 per 1000, or $3 per 100. If 5000 or upwards are taken, a deduction will be made.

REYNOLDS & BATEHAM,
sept 3 Rochester Seed Store.

Albany Nursery.

BUEL & WILSON, advertise to their friends and the public, that they now have on hand a good supply of Pear and Plum Trees, embracing the best new varieties, selected with care in the London Nurseries, last winter, by one of the partners, and in fine condition for transplanting this fall. In addition to their ordinary assortment of Peach, Apple and other Fruit Trees, Forest Trees, Ornamental Shrubs, Green House Plants, Dahlias, &c. Their assortment of Dahlias and Roses is particularly choice and extensive. Orders respectfully solicited.

Sept. 14, 1836 3w

MR. HENRY WELLS, principal of the New York Institution for the cure of stammering, proposes to cure one class of stammerers in this city, if a sufficient number make application on the third or fourth of Oct. next, during which time he may be found at the Eagle Tavern in this city.

Terms from $25 to $100, according to the pecuniary situation of the applicant, and the nature of the malady. The indigent cured gratis. A cure in all cases guaranted or the money will be refunded. Circulars may be obtained, containing certificates and testimonials or any information required by addressing to Mr. Wells, post paid, Palmyra. sept21-a12tr2tf2t*

The Moon.

The following notes of observations made several years relating to some interesting parts of the moon's surface, may be useful to such of your youthful readers as can command the use of a reflecting telescope, and feel the inclination to direct it to that beautiful satellite, and may possibly create a desire to be better acquainted with other celestial objects:

1. *The Ridge of Mountains in the Moon, called by Hevelius, the Apennines.*—When the moon is between 6 days 6 hours and 9 days old, with a reflecting telescope, and magnifying power of from 100 to 150, this ridge or chain, may be as distinctly seen as the Apennines, in Italy, on a well executed map; dark shadows are thrown on the eastern side, and they are then (and at this period only) seen in high relief. Thirteen peaks may be counted—the fifth from the lower end is the highest. There is a small crater between the third and fourth (counting from the upper end of the chain) and one on the declivity of the fifth (counting also from the upper end.) This ridge or chain, the only one in the moon which can be properly so called, as all the other mountains are detached, or in clusters, runs in a N. W. and S. E. directions. The upper part of the ridge is situated between the two dark parts, called seas (viz. Mare Imbrium and Mare Serenitatis,) known to young people as the right and left eyes of the moon, and the northernmost mountain of the chain is situated half way down the eastern side of the latter. Near the lower end of this chain there is a large crater, with a central cone—such craters, it is well known, are numerous in the moon—and the observer will be struck with their resemblance to Barren Island, in the Bay of Bengal (excepting the water); a print of which is given in the second volume of Lyell's "Principles of Geology."

2. *Mare Serenitatis.*—In the maps of the moon, this sea is generally represented with an irregular circular line of faint light within its boundary. I had a very favorable opportunity of seeing the western half of this sea when the moon was 5 days and 20 hours old, when I observed that the semicircular line of the light then visible was divided into four curved lines, beautifully and clearly defined, not connected; appearing like immense dykes, or mounds, in a plain of lava, and I have no doubt the eastern half is much the same.

3. *The Mare Crisium* is a dark spot seen with the naked eye, near the edge of the moon, in the north-west portion of its surface. This sea may be seen in profile when the moon is about 2 days 16 hours, or 17 days 3 hours old: its surface is convex, and you are reminded, when looking at it, of the convexity of the plain of Malpais, described by Humboldt, and which he attributes to "inflation from below." This sea has four cavities (without any annular elevation) within its boundary; the lower one is the largest, and the sun occasionally shines into it. On the 21st of January, 1828, the moon's age 4 days 17 hours, the libration must have been very favorable for my view; this sea was more open than I had ever seen it, and, consequently, its form was nothing like what is given in maps of the moon, and I observed four mountains near each other, but not connected, in the N. E. corner; the high ground which surrounds this sea, and their low situation, prevent their being seen at other times. All the seas, as they are called, are of a basaltic color, but contain no water.

4. On the 3d of May, 1827, moon's age nearly 8 days, I observed a straight cleft or fissure among some rocks, on the northern boundary of the Mare Imbrium, which it crosses having nearly a N. W. and S. E. direction. It lies nearly in a line between the craters Plato and Aristotlos. It was then of a dark color. I saw it again on the 2d of July, 1827, moon's age 8 days 11 hours; the sun then shone into it, and it was not easily found. I do not think it has been noticed before.

5. The beautifully illuminated detached peaks, or points, on the southern margin of the unenlightened portion of the moon's disk, may be seen when the moon is about 3 days 17 hours old, but much depends upon the libration: it was at that age I saw them on the 29th of April, 1827, and often since. JOHN FORD,

Late of the 79th Regiment.

London, July 30.

Price of Bread Stuffs.—We would not needlessly interrupt the enjoyment of those who look forward to the next winter as a time of general starvation. But lest their dreams should be too suddenly broken, we must call their attention to the facts contained in the last news from Europe respecting the prices of breadstuffs there. We happen to know of an operation at Liverpool, by which fifty thousand bushels of wheat are to be immediately forwarded to this country, and by the prices which are published, there is little doubt that much larger supplies will be soon forthcoming; for the long continuance of high prices, the successful issue of the recent importations, and the fact, well ascertained, that our domestic supplies are inadequate to our wants, will give new confidence in future operations. Let us see at what prices we can be supplied.

In Paris the price of bread is about 2 cents, and in London 3 cents lb. We found a shilling loaf in New York yesterday to weigh 2 lbs 3 oz, which is near six cents lb. The price of wheat in Paris is 112 cents a bushel, and the price of flour $5 a barrel. In the ports of the Mediterranean and the Baltic, bread stuffs are much cheaper than in either London or Paris. The price of good wheat at Naples is 2s 10d sterling a bushel, or 67 cents. From any one of these places freight might be obtained at 33 cents per barrel on flour, and 12 1-2 cents per bushel on wheat, or about half the rate charged on transportation of the same articles from Rochester, and one-fourth of what is charged from Ohio. Fifty thousand bushels of corn have lately been received here from Ohio by one house, at a freight of 49 cents. The duty on flour is one dollar a barrel, and on wheat 25 cents a bushel. Wheat, therefore, can be imported from Naples and laid down in New York at 125 to 135 cts. a bushel, all charges paid, and from a hundred other places at the same or a less price. Corn and rye are not burdened with a duty, and may be imported to great advantage. The countries of Europe and Asia afford stores of bread stuffs almost inexhaustable, so that the supplies for the country, if they should run to the highest possible quantity, could only affect prices in a very slight degree. Free trade will supply all our wants, and the cost, with a liberal mercantile profit, will not carry prices above 150 cents for wheat, 100 cents for rye and Indian corn, 50 cents for oats per bushel, and $7 50 for flour per barrel. So let the desponding cheer up, for no one who is industrious and frugal need starve in 1836 or 1837.—*Jour. of Com.*

PAPER VENEERING!—We yesterday examined an elegant piece of furniture veneered with marble paper, in imitation of rose wood. The imitation was so perfect and the veneering so exact that an experienced painter was unable to discover that it was not grained with paint, though he considered it almost impossible to shade and blend colors in such a beautiful manner. The paper was from the manufactory of Messrs S. C & E Mann, of this town. They have brought the manufacture of colored marble paper to a higher state of perfection than any establishment in the United States. This plan of veneering furniture, we think, will prove a very useful improvement. It combines three very desirable qualities—elegance, durability and cheapness. A common pine table can be covered in imitation of rose wood, for $1,50, in a style that would defy the most skillful painter in the world to equal. It is the opinion of cabinet makers that it will wear much longer than common veneering. A piece of furniture finished in this style may be examined at the Norfolk Bookstore in a few days. —*Dedham Patriot.*

Mendon Academy.

The exercises of this Academy will be resumed on Wednesday the 14th inst., under the direction of Mr. R. F. Buel and Miss M. J. Raymond.

The teacher who has recently been procured for the Ladies' Department, possesses the advantage of experience as a Preceptress in one of the first schools in the city of New York.

ALEXANDER SHELDON,
sept13-fr2t Sec'y of Trustees.

Chinese Mulberry Trees and Cuttings.

THE best varieties of CHINESE MULBERRY, (Morus Multicaulis) from *France*, *Italy* and *China*, of *one*, *two* and *three* years' growth, may be had in large or small quantities, from S. WHITMARSH'S extensive collection, and forwarded to any part of the United States, according to order, with directions for propagation.

It is confidently believed, that the present mode of culture adopted by us, will prove a certain and secure protection against the severity of winter, and the best method, by which, to increase the foilage and multiply the number of trees.

All orders directed to the subscriber, will receive immediate and faithful attention.

In behalf of S. WHITMARSH,
DANIEL STEBBINS.
Northampton Sept. 7. sept18-7t*

ELECTION NOTICE.—*Sheriff's Office, Monroe County, Rochester, July* 23, 1836.—A general election is to be held in the county of Monroe, on the 7th, 8th and 9th days of November next, at which will be chosen the officers mentioned in the notice from the Secretary of State, of which a copy is annexed. ELIAS POND, Sheriff.

State of New-York, Secretary's Office, Albany, July 15, 1836.

Sir—I hereby give you notice that at the next general election of this state, to be held on the 7th 8th and 9th days of November next, a Governor and Lieutenant Governor are to be elected.

I also give you notice that a Senator is to be chosen in the Eighth Senate District in the place of John Griffin, whose term of office will expire on the last day of December next.

JOHN A. DIX, Secretary of State.

To the Sheriff of the county of Monroe.

N. B.—The Inspectors of Election in the several towns in your county will give notice of the election of a Representative to Congress from the 28th Congressional District, and that 42 Electors of President and Vice President are also to be chosen at the general election aforesaid. They will also give notice of the election of Members of Assembly, and for filling any vacancies in county offices which may exist. july26

Monroe Horticultural Garden & NURSERY.

THE subscriber offers to the public a choice selection of Fruit Trees, of French, German, English and American varieties, consisting of Apples, Pears, Plums, Peaches, Cherries, Apricots, Nectarines, Quinces, Currants, Gooseberries, Raspberries, Strawberries, Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Plants, Hardy Roses, Vines, Creepers, Herbaceous Perennial Plants, Bulbous Roots &c. &c.

ALSO—A few hundred of the Morus Multicaulis, or Chinese Mulberry, the White Italian Mulberry by the hunbred or thousand, Grape Vines of both native and foreign varieties, mosty of large size, for sale by the single vine, hundred or thousand, at reduced prices. The subscriber has a large collection of Green-House Plants of choice and select varieties, and in good condition.

☞ Orders for Mr. Rowe's Nursery received by the Publisher of this paper.

Catalogues will be sent to those who wish them, gratis, or may be had by calling at the office of the Genesee Farmer. ASA ROWE.